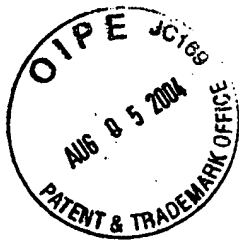


### REMARKS

In the last Action, restriction was required among the inventions of Group I (claims 1-11); Group II (claims 12-14); and Group III (claims 15-18). The Examiner stated that the three inventions are patentably distinct from each other, thereby making restriction proper. Applicants were required to elect one of the three inventions for further prosecution in this application.

In response to the restriction requirement, applicants have provisionally elected the invention of Group I drawn to a method of manufacturing a multi-tip probe and submit that claims 1-11 are readable on the elected invention. The non-elected claims have been retained in the application pending possible withdrawal of the restriction requirement or applicants' decision to pursue the subject matter thereof in a continuing application.



In light of the foregoing, early and favorable action on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ADAMS & WILKS  
Attorneys for Applicants

By: 

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Reg. No. 25,386

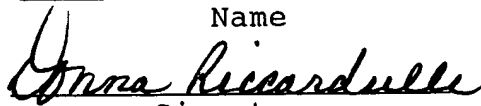
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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS NON-FEE AMENDMENT, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Donna Riccardulli

Name

  
Signature

JULY 31, 2004

Date